

WONG KONG HAR TONG QUARTERLY

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Aug. 18, 2017

DENNIS K.W. WONG AND WAH LUN WONG TO BE AWARDED HONORS

CALENDAR

謹訂於二零一七年八月二十六日星期六上午十一口半于 Community Church of Honolulu 禮堂舉行本年度第三次全體會員大會。懇請諸位堂兄弟姐妹踴躍出席參與! 謝謝。

Aug. 26(Sat.) - 3rd General Mtg. at
Community Church of Honolulu
Aug. 13(Sun.) Activity at Music Room,
Community Church of Honolulu: 1:30 P.M.



Dennis K.W. Wong



Wah Lun Wong



36 Participate in 2017 Hotel Industry Charity Walk

In May, 36 members walked through Waikiki to joined in with hundreds of others while enjoying oasis stops along the 6-mile route, rewarding in the end of the route with a plate lunch treat.

Chairs for our team were Steven Wong and Georgina Wong. The group was under Hawaiian Village hotel team and received complimentary Hawaiian Village t-shirts through Steven Wong.

Walking briskly or leisurely were Wayne Wong, Cynthia Wong, Dennis K. W. Wong, Annette Wong, Doretta Wong, Doreen Shimabuku, Darleen Pang, Carolyn Chong, Daniel Chong, Chadwick Wong, Gayle Wong,
(continued inside, see: Charity Walk)

Each award states as composed by Chadwick Wong)

Award: Director Emeritus of Wong Kong Har Tong Society

Dennis K.W. Wong distinguished himself as a long-time member of good-standing who has unselfishly and untiringly served as the 46th President of Wong Kong Har Tong Society of Hawaii. He also served in the following leadership positions on the Wong Kong Har Tong Executive Committee: Director, Vice President, Secretary, and Assistant Treasurer.

Dennis and his wife, Annette, chaired the demanding Social Committee for years, planning, coordinating, and setting up the four annual banquets and often acting as the MC. He was chairperson of the Palolo Golf Tournament and maintained our close relationship with the Palolo Chinese Home. He has been a member of every committee and is still an active contributor on the investment, Education, and Membership Committees. Dennis's contribution are too numerous to capture all, but he has been an active participant and contributor in all WKHT activities such as Baisan, Splendor of China, Chinese New Year Parade, Dragon Boat Race, and other activities.
(continued inside, see: *Director Emeritus*)

(contin. fr. p. 1 Dennis K.W. Wong)

His efforts have provided the Wong Kong Har Tong Society a strong financial position to allow its members the benefit of partaking in numerous social and cultural activities throughout the years as well as financially help many community organizations. His insights, complete analysis, timely recommendations, and sound judgment has helped guide the Executive Committee through the good times and many difficult times.

In his personal life, Dennis serves in a leadership position at his church, and he and his wife, Annette, have spent numerous hours doing community services. He generously served both organizations and unselfishly shared his time and knowledge with all members. He is a leader, a caring member, and a contributor in life.

On behalf of the Wong Kong Har Tong Society officers, directors and members, we recognize you for your numerous, outstanding contributions to Wong Kong Har Tong Society and to our community, and hereby honor and congratulate you a Director Emeritus of Wong Kong Har Tong Society. We wish you continued happiness, good health, and continued success in all our future endeavors.

Dated: May 11, 2017 of the Year of the Rooster.
President _____ Vice-President _____
=====

Award: Treasurer Emeritus of Wong Kong Har Tong Society

Wah Lun Wong distinguished himself as a long-time member of good standing who has unselfishly and untiringly served as the 45th President of Wong Kong Har Tong Society of Hawaii. He also served in the following leadership positions on the Wong Kong Har Tong Executive Committee: Director, Vice President, and Treasurer.

Wah Lun has been a member on every committee and is still an active contributor to

the investment, Finance, and Membership Committees. Wah Lun Wong's contributions are too numerous to capture all, but he has been an active participant and contributor in all WKHT activities such as Baisan, Splendor of China, Chinese New Year Parade, Dragon Boat Race, and other activities. He chaired the annual WKHT Open House, cleaning and preparing the clubhouse as well as donating some of the dishes served to the guests. At the annual Qing Ming Baisan celebration, Wah Lun provided the Chinese version of the program. He ordered the lunches for the General Meetings and assisted in the quarterly collation of the WKHT bulletin.

His efforts have provided the Wong Kong Har Tong Society a strong financial position to allow its members the benefit of partaking in numerous social and cultural activities throughout the years as well as financially help many community organizations. His insights, complete analysis, timely recommendations, and sound judgment have helped guide the Executive Committee through the good time and many difficult times.

Wah Lun Wong was selected as the United Chinese Society 2016 Model Father of the Year and serves as the President of the Lung Doo Benevolent Society. He generously served both organizations and unselfishly shared his time and knowledge with all members. He is a leader, a caring member, and a contributor in life.

On behalf of the Wong Kong Har Tong Society, officers, directors, and members, we recognize you, Wah Lun Wong, for your numerous, outstanding contributions to Wong Kong Har Tong Society and to our community, and hereby honor and congratulate you as Treasurer Emeritus of Wong Kong Har Tong Society. We wish you continued happiness, good health, and continued success in all your future endeavors.

Dated: May 11, 2017 of the Year of the Rooster
President _____ Vice-President _____

(Contin.: Charity Walk)

Tina Au, Richard Au, Emily Wong, Derek Wong, Brad Chun, Alice Chun, Arthur Wong, Gwen Wong, Ming Lan Wong Sidney Wong, Jonathan Wong, Georgina Wong, Alisa Wong, Stephen Wong, Jill Wong, Jennifer Wong, Leland Wong, Jade Wong, Margarte Wong, Vicky Chee, Franklin Chee, Clarie Chee-Santos, Stella Chee, Myra Chun, Violet Chun.

WKHT Golf Teams

The 2017 Palolo Chinese Home Invitational dynasty Golf Tournament in May boasts of eighteen WKHT members on the team this year, under the chairmanship of Dennis K. W. Wong.

Group 1A: Dennis W.K. Wong, Wayne Wong, Peter Chan

Group 1B: Cy Feng, Ken Nagahara, Russell Chong

Group 2A: Gayle Lau, Elwin Goo, Michael Chan

Group 2B: Willis Yap, Alvin Wong, Bert Fong

Group 3A: Fred Wong Gregory Wong, Emily McCollum

Group 3B: Yvonne Wong, Harvey Wong, Jeffrey Wong

General Meeting Location(s) Change

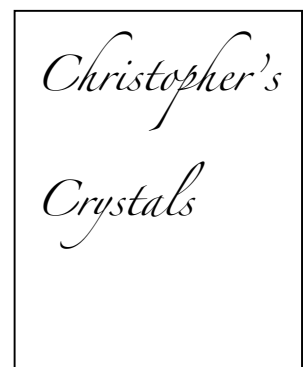
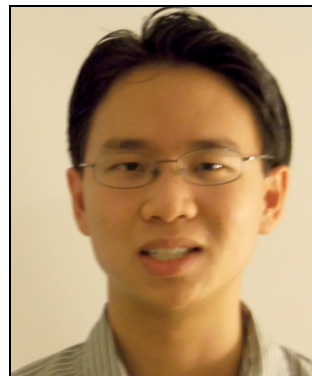
Hear ye! Hear ye! Changes are in store concerning our General Meetings and change of locations.

The final General Meeting (Aug. 26) to be held at Stephen Mark Hall, the Community Church of Honolulu will be the last time we shall meet there.

Beginning with the November 18 General Meeting, our General Meetings will be held at the Mandalay, and as per usual, on Saturdays.

According to president Harvey, members will be reimbursed for parking fees, since validation for free parking begins after 5:00 p.m.

Of course, we will no longer eat box lunches. We shall have real Chinese lunches served.



I am in my final months of living here in Japan. The time has gone by so quickly and so much has happened.

Because I teach at so many schools - 12 elementary schools and 4 middle schools - I do not visit any one school very often. In fact, I've recently been going to some of my schools for the final time.

This past week, I went to the very first school I ever taught at for the last time. I remember running into the entrance on that first day, sweating both because of the summer heat and the anxiety of beginning a new job, facing new co-workers, students, and challenges. I was embarrassed that I had arrived in a taxi, as I couldn't comprehend the bus system, and that my dress shirt was entirely soaked through. Entering this school situated up in the mountains, high amongst the clouds and surrounded by rice fields, was strange and dream-like, intimidating and breathtaking.

My first lessons there went terribly. The students - 3rd and 4th graders - were loud, listless, and oftentimes angry. The teachers, to whom I was supposed to be the "assistant", stood off to the side, offering little to no help with anything from classroom-management to lesson planning. I couldn't find a connection with any of the students, as they were usually screaming, fighting, talking, turned to the side, or shut down and shut off.

Those students are now my 5th and 6th graders and I teared up leaving them for the final time. They have changed so much for the better.

I have seen how they have grown and have gotten to know their personalities intimately. In my final lesson, I planned many communication activities. During that time, I walked around amongst my students and talked to them, stooping down to be at face level. The moment we met, face to face, I saw them open, their guards coming down like veils, leaving only a sincerity and shining. I was able to talk to them all like that, to see them just as they are. It will be a moment frozen in time that I will remember forever, as both I and they will never be the same again. We are changing, learning, and growing, as will happen always.

There is a girl who is incredibly shy, who reminds me of myself at that age; at lunchtime, back when I first met her, the students told me that she is capable of talking, but rarely if ever does. I looked to her to see her response and she said nothing. But if you look her in the eyes, you can see them observing the world intelligently, you can see them smiling brightly. Sometimes I'll track my eyes across my class and they'll get caught on hers. That was two years ago.

This past lesson, she volunteered to do a demonstration of a grammar point in front of the class. As much as she has grown in confidence, her spirit is still much the same. It's in her eyes.

There is another boy - Etsuki - who now sits quietly, studiously, and participates often. When I first met him, he was my most disruptive student. He would try to start fights with other students, would yell all the time, and repeat all of my English in a strong Japanese accent.

In my final lesson, while the students were doing an activity, I started talking to the teacher about how far this class has gone. To my surprise, the teacher stopped the class and told them that he wanted to make an announcement.

In Japanese, he told them what I had said.

"Chris Sensei told me that in fourth grade you were gyyahh, gyyahh, gyahh."

The class giggled, saying they remembered.

He asked why they had changed. They shrugged. No one replied. All I saw were their faces, bright, curious, waiting to hear their teacher translate the rest of what I had said.

He continued.

"Chris Sensei also told me how far he's seen you come, especially Etsuki. He said Etsuki was the most disruptive of all of you and now look at him, sitting there like that. Why did you change, Etsuki?"

Etsuki just looked down, abashedly, but with a slight smile, perhaps one of pride in himself, perhaps one of looking back at how "immature" he once was, perhaps noting the strange nature of people, the fragility of things, the plasticity of life.

Not wanting Etsuki to feel too embarrassed and prolong his time in the spotlight, I asked the class to open their textbooks for the next activity. Etsuki and the class - my class, a collection of beautiful faces and personalities - opened their books, looked up, eyes bright, ready for anything, and the lessons went on, as they have and will always.

Ukulele Performs for PCH Residents

With their usual gusto, our Ukulele Ensemble entertained residents at Palolo Chinese home on July 22, Saturday. Residents jived, clapped their hands in rhythm, and even joined in with the numbers that were familiar to them. Many of their faces lighted up. Kudos to our now well-known ensemble!

On the Move...Mah Jong and Ukuleles

The Kapahulu Center is no longer the meeting place for our mah jong gang and the ukulele ensemble for practice.

The changes have been made as follows, meeting on the **second** Sunday of each month at 1:30 p.m. at the Music Room, Stephen Mark Hall, Community Church of Honolulu.



Group 3A golfer Fred M.C. Wong



Golfer Emily McCollum strikes a "Number One" pose.



Group 3B golfers l. to r.: Harvey Wong, Jeffrey Wong, Yvonne Wong



Jeffrey Wong and Harvey Wong patiently wait for their next round.

kristie's kolumn



It seems like just yesterday, Jameson was turning one. We marveled at how we had all survived that incredible year, we thanked God and the village that helped raised him that far, we patted ourselves on the back and thought, that was hard, but we got through it. Ha-ha-ha! If only we'd had a crystal ball, we would have taken the "hard" times in stride. Because now that he's two, we're getting a real taste of why people with kids always look so tired.

Now I know all you people who raised kids to teenagers and beyond are laughing at us thinking toddlerhood is hard, but you must admit, although it comes with its share of laughs, toddlerhood packs a lot of tears, too. And it's not always just the child doing the crying.

Was I one of those people who said no electronic devices at the dinner table? Yes I was. Was I one of those people who said no child should become accustomed to sleeping in the parents' bed? Yes I was. Was I one of those people who said snacking before dinner was setting bad habits and should never be done? Yes I was.

Am I any of those people now? No I am not.

One of the toughest parts about raising a toddler is applying the word "NO" and meaning it. I mean, toddlers are cute. It is really hard to say no when a smiling two-year-old comes to you, clutching a bag of cookies in his chubby hands, and say "Cookie, mommy!" It is hard to say no when you're dropping him off at day care and he raises his arms and says "Up!" because he wants to go with you instead. It is almost impossible to say no when he wants to dig in the dirt outside, even when it's already dark and everyone's ready for bed. Saying no is no picnic.

But some of the best things about raising a toddler: listening to him laugh at funny things; being funny himself; listening to him string together little sentences ("Shh, Daddy sleeping!" (whether Daddy is or not) and "Shoo, Kona, MY CRACKER! are my favorites. There's also the funny toddler run, like when he's running away from us as we try to put him in the bath, or running across a grassy field pretending to be a dinosaur. The good always outweighs the bad.

The last vestiges of Jameson's babyhood are slowly fading away. but I will enjoy each and every one until they are really gone. ##

Addendum Group Photo of WKHT Golfers



WKHT Golf delegation pose for a group photo at this year's Palolo Chinese Home Dynasty Invitational Golf Tournament in May.

Mid-Autumn Festival Dinner

Reminder! Don't forget to sign-up/register for our annual Mid-Autumn Festival dinner scheduled for Sunday, September 24, at The Mandalay.

Deadline: September 10, 2017.

Cost: \$17 for Active Members

\$34 for Non-members

Make checks payable to: Wong Kong Har Tong of Hawaii.

LOSS OF FOUR COMMUNITY LEADERS

Our Chinese community and community at large mourns the loss of four well-known leaders within the course of 3 months.

Danny S.M. Young, age 77, Emeritus Director Chairman of United Chinese Society was well known for his interaction with the Chinese community and community at large. He brought many changes in recent years to make the United Chinese Society through the introduction of new programs. May 4, 2017.

Henry H.W. Lee, age 70, executive secretary of the United Chinese Society passed away in May. He was well-known in the Chinese community and a staunch supporter of perpetuating our culture and history. He was also past president of the United Chinese Society. Passed away on May 12, 2017.

Blossom Young Tyau. The Chinese community and community at large loss a great leader when Blossom Tyau, age 94, passed away on April 22, 2017. Blossom was a great

giver and volunteer and was active in many Chinese and community organizations, and held directorships in many Chinese and non-Chinese organizations.

Samuel Cummins Luke. Community leader and president of Manoa Chinese Cemetery Lin Yee Chung passed away at age 82 on May 23, 2017. Samuel was very active in the community at large, and served as a director and chairman of a host of organizations.

Darryll Wong in Midweek

Excerpts from this Midweek's April 26, 2017 "Old Friends" have revealed to us a lot about our member Major General Darryll Wong, who was once our captain for our Dragon Boat Race entry. His father is Ding Kong Wong.

There are two causes that Maj. General Darryll Wong seems particular passionate about - youth and environment - and he devotes much of his time to both. It's a desire to give back so that future generations are in a good place.

(Darryll first appeared on Midweek's Feb. 15, 2006 cover.)

Wong works closely with Special Olympics Hawaii, believing that keiki with disabilities are no different from any other child. It's a mentality influenced by his own days as a student-athlete, and basketball and volleyball coach. There is no such a thing as bad players; only fast, medium, or slow learners.

It pairs nicely with another mantra Darryll believes in: Seek to understand rather than criticize. Looking at the whole picture - be it a person or situation - means not jumping to conclusions, which ultimately is more conducive to a productive and positive outcome. It also is why Wong spends time mentoring at-risk youths, whom he describes as "diamonds in the rough."

"The foundation of the future the future of Hawaii is in our youth," says Wong.

Youths also play an important role in how Wong is cultivating community interest in the environment. In addition to being a member of the Polynesian Voyaging Society, Wong also is

a founding member of Hawaii Exemplary State Foundation.

He describes the program as an integrative one that works with students in grades K-12. It isn't simply about promoting STEM education, though that is part of it. Rather, it is about using a systems-based approach to solving a multitude of problems that are interrelated.

He points to Ala Wai Canal as an example of this. The current state of the canal is not only a result of its immediate surrounding area. The ahupuna'a leads all the way back to Manoa. To really clean Ala Wai Canal means cleaning the watershed in Manoa, and Wong says that Iolani School students have been especially instrumental in gathering research and data in the Ala Wai area.

Beyond the science involved, Ala Wai Canal is a multi-faceted problem. It has the potential to affect tourism, Wong points out, as it did a few years ago when a sewage spill forced the closure of Waikiki Beach. There also are environmental concerns, as waste that travels into Ala Wai Canal passes harbors to reach the ocean, where it affects coral and sea life.

This scenario, Wong believes, perfectly encapsulates the interdependency of various agencies.

"Our kids nowadays, they can learn STEM, but in the end, they need to understand the whole society," he says. It's a global world right now, and understanding how it all interrelates and how it all impacts one another is very important in the solution of a problem."

All of this, though, not only scratches the surface of everything Wong has accomplished - and there is a long list of achievements and awards he has garnered throughout the years. For his contributions to the community, Maryknoll School will honor Wong May 13 with the Noblesse Oblige Service Award at its final 19th annual Monsignor Charles A. Kekumano Award and Scholarship Dinner at Sheraton Waikiki.

"I'll give you my first reaction," says Wong, a Maryknoll grad. "I said, 'You got the wrong guy.'"

Wong-derful News

Henry Linan Wong and wife Laurie spent two weeks visiting Iceland in mid-July... Jeffrey C.M. Wong won five games of mah jong in July Activity second Sunday at Music Room, Stephen Mark Hall, Community Church of Honolulu. It is rare to win five games in such a short time of playing. One can imagine how Jeffrey beamed!

New Members Approved by Members

Seven new members were voted in by the general membership at the last general meeting.

Lawrene Renee Char (sponsor: niece of William K.C. Wong); **Kaixian Chen** (sponsor: Heliang Huang's wife); **Creighton Wong** (sponsor: Emily S.Y. Wong's uncle); **Pearline Wong** (sponsor: Emily S.Y. Wong's aunt); **Natalie Wong Diehm** (sponsor: Anita C. Wong's daughter); **John Fitzgerald Diehm II** (sponsor: Anita C. Wong's grandson); **Kira Hiilani Diehm** (sponsor: Anita C. Wong's granddaughter).

Wong Kong Har Tong
c/o Jeffrey C.M Wong
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Honolulu, HI 96822

Obituaries

WKHT ,mourns the demise of two members recently: **James C. A. Wong** and **Thomas Y.C. Wong**.

It is True

It is true and official, WKHT general membership approved the sale of our headquarters, the Siu Building in Chinatown and have purchased new headquarters and an investment property (pending). The update is that the new headquarters building is located on Huna Street near the Rehabilitation Center of the Pacific.

President Harvey Wong is coordinating this project, with input from the executive board members.

Photo credits this issue: David M. Wong, Fred C.M. Wong, Emily Wong ,Chadwick Wong, Gayle Wong